



M E D I A R E L E A S E
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 11, 2008

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**GIRL SCOUTS OBSERVE EARTH DAY WITH SERVICE PROJECTS
AT BURGESS FALLS STATE PARK AND NATURAL AREA**

Nashville, Tenn. - Girl Scouts in White County will observe Earth Day a few days early this year, with a variety of service projects scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 19 at Burgess Falls State Park and Natural Area in Sparta.

"I am very pleased that Girl Scouts from across White County have chosen to hold their Service Day at Burgess Falls State Park," said Bill Summers, park manager. "Their efforts to improve the natural area will have a tremendous impact - both on the people who visit Burgess Falls and the land itself. The results of their Earth Day observance will be enjoyed for a long time to come."

This event - which is held in coordination with Burgess Falls State Park, the Iris Fund and Putnam County Master Gardeners - will include more than 100 Girl Scouts from 14 troops in White County. Activities planned for this Girl Scout Service Day include planting more than 600 native shrubs, ferns and trees, adding "playsafe" mulch to the playgrounds, assembling picnic tables and working in the butterfly garden.

Burgess Falls is a 350-acre park, which lies on the rugged Eastern Highland Rim in Putnam and White counties. It is noted for its sheer bluffs, narrow ridges, waterfalls and diverse forests. Tennessee's 54 state parks offer diverse natural, recreational and cultural experiences for individuals, families, or business and professional groups. State park features range from pristine natural areas to 18-hole championship golf courses. Tennessee has 77 designated State Natural Areas, covering approximately 110,000 acres of ecologically significant lands.

For additional information about Tennessee State Parks, visit the Web site at www.tnstateparks.com or call 1-888-867-2757 for a free brochure. More information about Tennessee's natural areas program can be found at www.tn.gov/environment/na/.

For more information about the Girl Scout Service Day event at Burgess Falls State Park, please call (931) 432-5312.

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